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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/855,502	05/16/2001	Sylvain Chafer	Q64471	9436

7590

01/02/2004

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC  
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20037-3213

EXAMINER
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ABDULSELAM, ABBAS I

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2674

DATE MAILED: 01/02/2004

14

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/855,502

Applicant(s)

CHAFER ET AL.

Examiner

Abbas I Abdulsalam

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-5,7-11 and 13-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-5,7-11 and 13-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

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## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2-5, 7-11 and 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berry et al. (USPN 6256030) in view of Cirne et al. (USPN 6633313).

Regarding claims 2, 7 and 11, Berry teaches event handling system in connection with the user's manipulation of a keyboard that includes event type keyboard (259) and handling keyboard event in object (269). See Fig 7(A-C). Berry teaches navigating between levels of a composite object in graphical user interface in keyboard mode. See col. 2, lines 20-25. Berry teaches that the object can be demonstrated in tree form as shown in Fig 3, Fig 8(A-B) and Fig. 10(A-B). Berry also teaches the use of arrow keys and a tab key for the purpose of navigating from object to object. Col. 8, lines 60-65. Furthermore, Berry teaches that in the in the case of a keyboard event, a consecutive next object is determined according to the compound object's hierarchy that will determine appropriateness for keyboard input (265). See col. 10, lines 32-52. However, Berry does not disclose comparing a keyboard event with keys through a hierarchical tree structure to find a key within the key lists that corresponds to the keyboard event. Cirne on the other hand teaches an event structure (800) including an event data key (802) serving as a unique identifier locating the event data field (804) which in turn specifies extra data specific to a

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particular type of focus even such as keyboard input for a keyboard event or navigational input for a navigational event. See col. 7, lines 61-67 and Fig. 8.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Berry's graphical user interface system to adapt Cirne's event structure (800). One would have been motivated in view of the suggestion in Cirne that the event structure (800) as configured in Fig. 8 equivalently provides the desired comparison of keyboard events with listed keys. The use of event structure (800) helps function graphical user interfaces as taught by Cirne et al.

In addition, it would have been obvious that Cirne's use of event data field (804) with respect to navigational event satisfies the desired use of hierarchical tree structure.

Regarding claims 3-5 and 8-10, Berry teaches navigation system within a graphic user interface applicable for a variety of computers including a mini computer, under different operating systems.

Regarding claim 13, Berry teaches navigation paths between levels of composite images (col. 2, lines 25-28) and the composite object is treated as a hierarchy structure. (col. 5, lines 1-13). It would have been obvious that navigation of hierarchy structure can parent/child hierarchy.

Regarding claims 14-16, Cirne teaches an event handler retuning to an error code in which case the event manager performs sequential examination in order to determine the registration of the event at issue. See col. 4, lines 49-54.

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**Conclusion**

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered to applicant's disclosure.

The following arts are cited for further reference.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,329,984 to Boss et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,249,284 to Bogdan

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to **Abbas Abdulsalam** whose telephone number is **(703) 305-8591**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday (9:00-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Richard Hjerpe**, can be reached at **(703) 305-4709**.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to:**

**(703) 872-9314**

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology center 2600 customer Service office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

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Abbas Abdulsalam

Examiner

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December 24, 2003



RICHARD MILLER  
SUPERVISORY ENGINEER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER